

REMARKS

Claims 21-27 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the remarks contained herein.

NON-STATUTORY DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 21-27 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-28 of U.S. Patent No. 6,617,653 and over Claims 1-4 of U.S. Patent No. 6,674,131. Applicants are submitting herewith a terminal disclaimer for addressing this rejection.

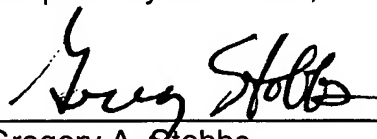
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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